

A Berryville: The town is named for Benjamin Berry, who developed a 20-acre town site in the 1790s at the intersection of the Alexandria-Winchester Road and the road to Greenway Court, home of Lord Fairfax. It was earlier called Battletown, a reference to the legendary rowdy lifestyle of this pre-Revolutionary hamlet. When Clarke County was formed in 1836, Berryville became the county seat. It was home to Harry F. Byrd, Sr., who served as governor of Virginia 1926-1930 and U.S. Senator 1933-1965.

Begin a walking tour of the town on Church Street, a block north of the traffic signal at Main Street.

1 Courthouse Complex: The old courthouse, to the left as you face the Civil War memorial, was completed in 1838. The small brick building on the corner was built in 1882 for the commonwealth’s attorney. The modern courthouse in the center dates from 1978. The sheriff’s building, on the right, served as the sheriff’s residence as well as the jail when it was built in 1900.

2 Grace Episcopal Church: Gen. Robert E. Lee worshipped here on his way to Gettysburg, and he reportedly hitched his horse, Traveler, to a sycamore tree in the churchyard. This handsome Italianate brick church was built in 1857.

Walk down the hill to the traffic light at Church and Main and turn left to 32 East Main Street.

3 Coiner House: This two-story circa 1885 brick house contains the offices and museum of the Clarke County Historical Association. (540) 955-2600

Continue in the same direction to 106 East Main Street, just past the apartment building.

4 The Nook: Built in 1765 by Major Charles Smith, the high sheriff, the Nook is believed to be one of the oldest homes in the county. Benjamin Berry purchased the 20 acres he developed into the town from Smith’s son.

Walk back along historic Main Street and cross Church Street.

5 Harford Building: (11/15 West Main, across the street) This three-story building with its ornamental cast iron façade served as a hotel before the Civil War; it was renovated in 1995. This and other town buildings appear in the 1864 sketchbook of artist James E. Taylor, who accompanied U.S. Gen. Philip Sheridan.

6 The Old Jail: (29 West Main) This small stone building, constructed around 1800. It was later used as the first county jail and is the oldest standing local government building. It has served as a barber shop for more than 50 years.

Across Buckmarsh Street (Route 340) is the Hawthorne Building, and beyond it is the Battletown Inn.

7 Hawthorne Building: Built between 1815 and 1820 as a residence by Treadwell Smith, this Federal-style brick home has served as a clinic, library, apartment building, and doctor’s offices. During the 19th century, similar brick homes anchored the other three corners.

8 The Battletown Inn: Built as a residence by Benjamin Berry, circa 1809, this Federal-style brick building served as an inn for many years and remains a restaurant and bed-and-breakfast. (540) 955-4100

This ends the walking tour. Drive north on Route 340, passing beneath the Route 7 bypass bridge (Harry Byrd Highway).

B Mosby’s Wagon Train Raid: Just beyond the bridge, in the fields to the left, John Singleton Mosby and his Rangers attacked Gen. Philip Sheridan’s seven-mile-long wagon train in August 1864.

C The Anchorage: (2.3 miles on the right) Built before 1770, The Anchorage is one of the earliest homesteads in northern Clarke County. Some statuary, a modern addition, can be seen from the road.

D Fairfield: (on the right, .7 mile) The center section of this limestone mansion was built in 1770 by Warner Washington, cousin to George Washington, who often visited here. Its plan is similar to that of Kenmore, the home of Mrs. Fielding Lewis, the President’s sister, in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

In about a mile, turn right onto Route 612 (Shepherds Mill Road), which crosses Long Marsh Run. In 1.8 miles turn left onto Route 609 (Cannon Ball Road). In .5 mile, at the stop sign, turn left onto Route 608 (Wickliffe Road).

E Wickliffe Church: (1 mile on Route 608) This small brick Episcopalian church was built in 1846, replacing a stone building built on donated land in 1819. The views from the churchyard are impressive.

Travel back along Route 608 (Wickliffe Road). In 1.8 miles, at 612 (Shepherds Mill Road) is the white frame Marvin Chapel (Methodist, 1880). Stay on Route 608 another 1.1 miles to Springfield and Morgan Springs farms.

F Springfield: (left; difficult to see when the trees are in full leaf) Built in 1827, Springfield was the home of Josiah Ware. During the War, it was one of the several buildings torched by Union troops, but quick work by the family and slaves saved the day. The house burned in 1904 and was rebuilt the following year.

G Morgan Spring: (right) Built circa 1825, the house was updated around 1870 in an Italianate style. It was for many years the home of the well-known concert pianist Leo Wheat.

Continue .6 mile to Route 7 (Harry Byrd Highway) and turn left. In 2.8 miles turn left onto Route 603 (Castleman Road), which parallels the Shenandoah River.

H Riverside: (on a hill to the left, .8 mile) This handsome limestone house, built circa 1790 for James Ware, has a commanding view of the river.

I Ware’s Mill: (.1 mile on right) This sturdy brick miller’s house, built around 1830, served a mill owned by Josiah Ware of Springfield. Few traces of the mill remain.

J Cool Spring (Holy Cross Abbey): (.5 mile on right) Built by James Wormley in 1784 of native limestone, his home now serves the Holy Cross Abbey of the Cistercian Order of the Roman Catholic Church. The house can be seen from the parking lot of the gift shop, where visitors are welcomed seven days a week. Cool Spring was the site of an 1864 Civil War victory by Gen. Jubal Early’s Confederate troops under the command of Generals Wharton and Rhodes over units of the Army of West Virginia commanded by Colonel Thoburn. Abbey and Retreat Center: (540) 955-1425

Return to Route 7 (Harry Byrd Highway). The area below the bridge was the site of Castleman’s Ferry, a depot for river traffic to Alexandria via Harper’s Ferry.

K North Hill: (on the hilltop across Route 7) The original building at North Hill was a log cabin built in 1774. Over the years the Mercer family expanded it greatly, even adding a ballroom with Tiffany leaded glass windows.

Turn right on Route 7 (Harry Byrd Highway). In 3.2 miles, look for Norwood, on the left, with its distinctive tree-line driveway.

L Norwood: Built for Louis Neill in 1820, it is one of the finest examples of Federal-style architecture in the county.

In .6 mile, at the junction with Route 7 Business (East Main Street), make a U-turn. Look back across Route 7 at the rolling fields of Audley Farm.

M Audley: Built around 1795 by Warner Washington II, son of Warner Washington of Fairfield, Audley was later home to Nellie Parke Custis Lewis, an adopted granddaughter of George Washington and the second wife of Maj. Lawrence Lewis, his nephew. Prize-winning thoroughbreds are raised here today.

Go east .3 mile to Route 608 (Parshall Road), and turn right. Proceed 3.1 miles to the river and turn right onto Route 621 (Locke’s Mill Road), which runs beside it. In about a mile, as the road rises, notice the house on the left.

N Locke’s Mill and Miller’s House: The miller’s house, circa 1750, is one of the oldest buildings in the area. The original mill stood just beside it and was replaced in the early 1900s by the mill you see here.

Continue to the bottom of the hill and turn away from the river onto Route 613 (still Locke’s Mill Road). In .4 mile continue straight onto Route 618 (again Locke’s Mill Road). At 1.1 miles, turn right onto Route 617 (Briggs Road). Proceed .9 mile to Route 255 (Bishop Meade Road) and turn right. Just beyond the railway bridge, on the left, is Old Chapel and its cemetery.

O Old Chapel: This stone chapel was built in 1793, replacing an earlier log building (circa 1738). It is one of the oldest Episcopal church buildings west of the Blue Ridge. Col. Nathaniel Burwell of Carter Hall and Edmund Randolph, governor of Virginia and first attorney general of the United States, are buried here, as are many Confederate soldiers and early Clarke Co. families.

Route 255 (Bishop Meade Road) meets Route 340 (Lord Fairfax Highway) at Old Chapel. Turn right and proceed north on Route 340.

P Chapel Hill: (glimpse of it on the left shortly after turning onto Route 340) the oldest section of Chapel Hill (1836) was built of native limestone by the Byrd family. For many years Chapel Hill was the home of ‘Wild Bill’ Donovan, head of the OSS (now the CIA) during WWII.

Continue .7 mile on Route 340.

Q Woodley: (house on hill on right, some distance from road) Built in 1835 by Daniel Sowers, Woodley is a two-story brick home with a full basement; a large wing was added at the time of the Civil War. The Blue Ridge Hunt hosts point-to-point races here annually in March. The races are open to the public.

Just beyond Woodley, turn left onto Route 633 (Annfield Road).

R Annfield: (1.5 miles, on the right) This Georgian-style house of native limestone was built by Matthew Page between 1790 and 1799 for his wife, Ann Meade Page, sister of Episcopal bishop William Meade, a local resident. Ann Page was well known for her early abolitionist work. Mary Custis (later Mrs. Robert E. Lee) was born here while her mother was visiting relatives.

Continue .7 mile to Route 652 (Janeville Road, gravel) and turn right. In a mile and a half, at the stop sign at Route 657 (Senseny Road), turn right again. In a little over 2 miles (past the Route 636, Westwood Road junction) look for the apple orchards and split-rail fence on the left that signal Avenel.

S Avenel: Built in 1846 and called Ellwood, it was for many years the home of the Gold family, local farmers and historians. The 6th New York Cavalry and Mosby’s Rangers skirmished in the oak grove near the house in September 1864 (the Fight at Gold’s Farm). The Byrd family, mid-20th century owners, renamed the property Avenel.

Continue .9 mile to Route 340 (Lord Fairfax Highway) and turn left. In .4 mile turn right onto Route 616 (Church Street). In .3 mile turn right onto Route 614 (Josephine Street).

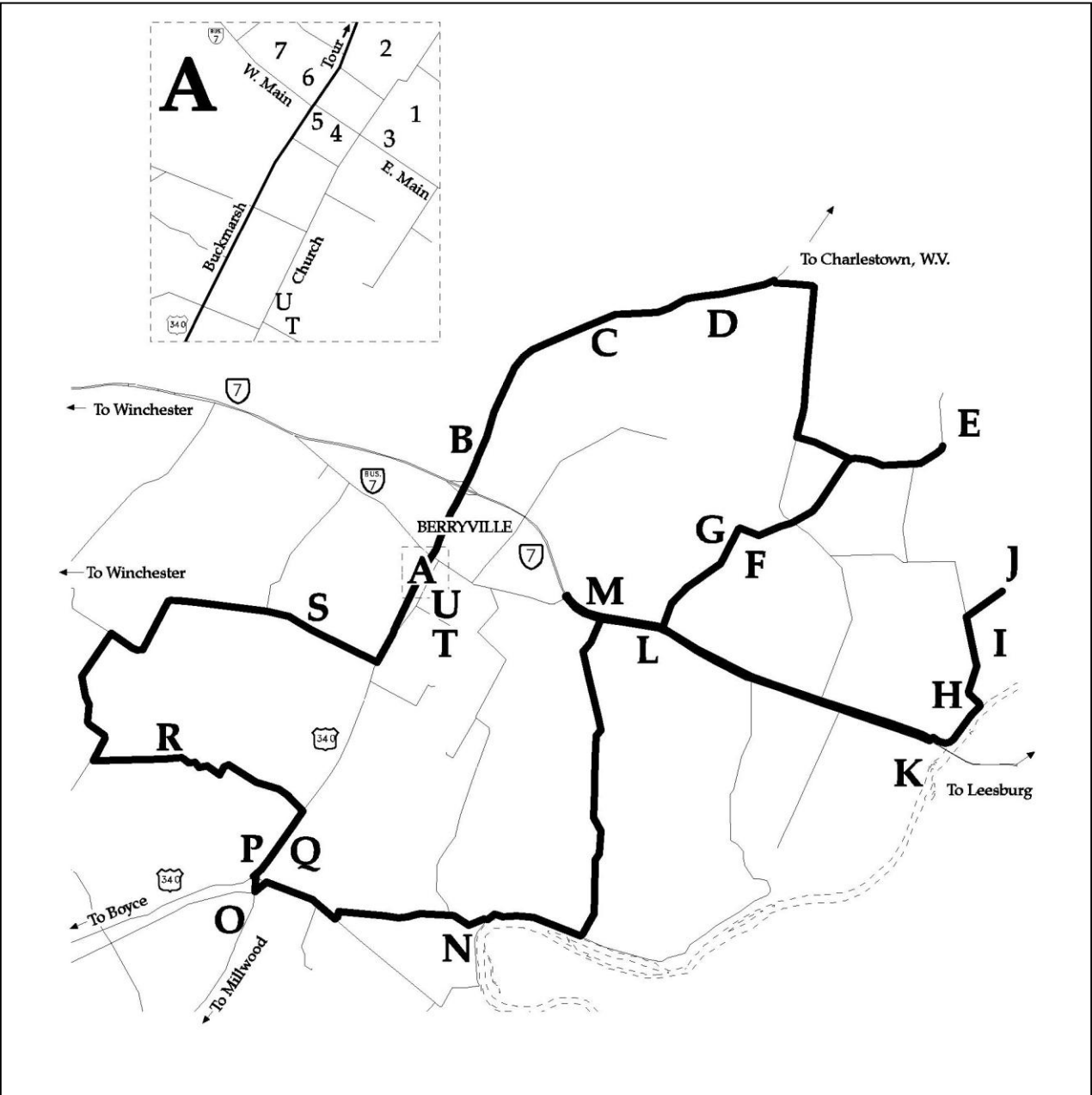
T Josephine City: Founded in the 1870s, Josephine Street was once the thriving center of the county’s African-American community, whose population dropped from 55% of the county in 1840 to 7% in 2000. At 303 Josephine Street (next to Johnson-Williams Apartments) is the Josephine School Community Museum, the Clarke County African-American Museum and Cultural Center. Museum: (540) 955-5512

Return to Church Street, turn right to return to downtown Berryville, where this tour began.

U Tollhouse: The second house on the right beyond Josephine Street (324 Church) was the tollhouse for the Berryville-Millwood Turnpike.

Clarke County, Virginia
Berryville Historic Walking Tour &
Long Marsh Historic Driving Tour

- A. Berryville Historic District*
 - 1. Courthouse Complex*
 - 2. Grace Episcopal Church
 - 3. Coiner House
 - 4. The Nook
 - 5. Harford Building
 - 6. The Old Jail
 - 7. Hawthorne Building
 - 8. Battletown Inn
- B. Mosby’s Wagon Train Raid
- C. The Anchorage
- D. Fairfield*
- E. Wickliffe Church*
- F. Springfield
- G. Morgan Spring
- H. Riverside
- I. Ware’s Mill
- J. Cool Spring (Holy Cross Abbey)
- K. North Hill
- L. Norwood*
- M. Audley
- N. Locke’s Mill & Mill House*
- O. Old Chapel*
- P. Chapel Hill
- Q. Woodley
- R. Annfield*
- S. Avenel
- T. Josephine City
- U. Tollhouse



*National Register of Historic Places and Virginia Landmarks Register

Clarke County, Virginia
Berryville
Historic Walking Tour &
Long Marsh
Historic Driving Tour

A walk through Berryville and a drive through the Long Marsh District in Clarke County offers a glimpse of life in the Shenandoah Valley in Revolutionary and Civil War times. George Washington most certainly slept here as he surveyed for Lord Fairfax and later visited relatives who lived here. Robert E. Lee worshipped in Berryville on his way to Gettysburg (his wife was born in Clarke County), and Mosby and his Rangers had several exciting encounters here. From a pleasant small town to a Cistercian abbey, this tour offers fine old homes, mills and beautiful views of the Blue Ridge.

As you walk through the town and drive through the county, please remember that most of the historic buildings are privately owned and are not open to the public. Where the public is welcome, a telephone number is given so you can call for visiting hours.



Woodley (1835)
site of Blue Ridge Hunt
point-to-point races every spring.



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Also available:
Greenway
Historic Driving Tour

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CLARKE COUNTY
VIRGINIA



Riverside (circa 1790)

Berryville
Historic Walking Tour
&
Long Marsh
Historic Driving Tour



Chapel Hill (1826)

Clarke County
Historic Preservation
Commission
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